

Dear Committee:

I support the swap of 87 acres in Higganum of near-pristine old pasture, dense forest, extensive watercourses and exciting geological features for 17 acres in Tylerville of mostly old sand pit on the "other side of the tracks". I hope the DEP agrees with me that the environmental value of the Higganum tract far outweighs the Tylerville piece.

I have lived in Higganum for 32 years and been on the Haddam Wetlands Commission since 1992 which has afforded me the chance to visit both properties. It is my personal opinion that not only is the environmental value of the Higganum property so much higher, but that the Tylerville property is much better suited to commercial use as it is already such a disturbed piece of property and has very little environmental value.

If it is true that this type of swap has never been done before, then let it be a good example of how DEP can protect a better piece of property and allow for a lesser piece to be used in a more appropriate manner.

Thank you,
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